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Policies and Procedures Minutes 1/7/2011

APPROVED Minutes

Arlington School Committee
Policies and Procedures Subcommittee

January 7, 2011

The meeting was called to order by Judson Pierce, Chair, at 4:30 p.m.

In attendance

School Committee Members: Judson Pierce, Leba Heigham, Cindy Starks,
Administration: Dr. Kathleen Bodie, Cindy Bouvier, Julia McLaughlin, Paula Neville

Approval of Minutes

The minutes were read from the December 7, 2010 meeting and approved unanimously on a Motion made by Ms. Starks and seconded by Ms. Heigham.

Public Participation

None.

Review of File KF, Room Booking Policy

Ms. McLaughlin and Ms. Neville led the discussion on revising Policy KF. This policy was originally enacted on March 28, 2006. Ms. McLaughlin and Ms. Neville provided the Subcommittee with a packet of research of other districts as well as a proposed policy. Ms. Neville noted that most districts struggle with the issue of room booking fees and the current financial environment causes a need for revenue for use of rooms. Consistency and equality are key components to a working Policy. It was noted that there are discounts even within the proposed fee structure as the last time the fee schedule was looked at was on December 9, 2003 and wage increases and energy rates have gone up considerably since that date. Ms. McLaughlin noted that the APS should continue to defer to schools use first before considering requests from outside groups. It was determined to continue to review what other districts have for room booking policies and how we can make the APS policy stronger and more uniformly adhered to.

Discussion of Cyber Bullying Policy

Ms. Bouvier led the discussion and informed the Subcommittee that she did not feel that the proposed policy from MASC was a good policy for the APS because at times it is necessary for Coaches for example to text their players regarding schedule changes. There is a need for clarity on the issue of social networking and cell phone and email communications. There was general consensus that any policy should delineate what is and what is not appropriate communication. Dr. Bodie indicated that she would perform some research and get back to the Subcommittee at a future meeting.

New Business:

Dr. Bodie informed the Subcommittee that we are being asked to adopt a policy and that the DESE has a model policy on accepting students into the APS who come from Charter Schools. Dr. Bodie indicated that she will be forwarding a copy of this proposed policy to the Subcommittee for review.

- Next Meeting: January 19, 2011, School Committee Room, 6:30pm

Motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Starks at 6:30pm, seconded by Ms. Heigham and was passed unanimously.